

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 33-48 and 51-54 will be pending, of which claim 33 is independent. Claim 33 has been amended to define component F in the composition as certain core-shell particles. Support for the revision of claim 33 can be found, *e.g.*, on page 23, line 28 through page 24, line 3 of the specification. Furthermore, claims 49-50 have been cancelled and claims 53-54 have been added. Support for new claims 53-54 can be found throughout the application as filed. *See, e.g.*, page 24, lines 3-8, for the ratio described in new claim 54. Consequently, no new matter has been introduced and reconsideration of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 33-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The Examiner has presented the unsupported contention that “[t]he weight percents of components (A) through (F) ... are critical or essential to the practice of the invention is [*sic*] disclosed, but not included in the claim(s); therefore the claims, as written, are not enabled by the disclosure.” *See* page 2 of the outstanding Office Action. Applicants assume the Examiner’s argument rests on the specification allegedly describing the various weight percentages as *critical*. In this regard, Applicants kindly traverse the Examiner’s rejections and ask withdrawal of the same or, alternatively, kindly ask the Examiner to point out where the specification describes the percentages as *critical* instead of, for instance, *desirable*.

Furthermore, the claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over several primary references in view of secondary reference Bae *et al.* (U.S. 5,545,367), wherein Bae *et al.* is cited by the Examiner in an attempt to overcome the deficiency in the primary references of not teaching core-shell particles having a diameter of 10-700 nm. *See*, generally, the outstanding Office Action.

Applicants note that even if, *in arguendo*, Bae *et al.* would provide motivation to include core-shell particles having a 10-700 nm diameter in the compositions of the primary references, the Examiner still fails to present a *prima facie* case of obviousness. For instance, the Examiner has failed to show where any of the prior art references, either alone or in combination, disclose compositions comprising particles having the cores and shells enumerated in instant claim 33. Indeed, Applicants respectfully submit that the references are

absent such disclosure and, consequently, kindly request withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

Finally, regarding the double-patenting rejection over U.S. Patent 6,287,745, Applicants intend to remove this rejection by submitting a Terminal Disclaimer in due course.

CONCLUSION

All rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is courteously solicited. However, if any questions remain, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

By: 

Paul L. Sharer
Reg. No. 36,004
Tel. No.: (703) 905-2180
Fax No.: (703) 905-2500

PLS/wdw
PO Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000

Encls: Appendix

APPENDIX TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 49-50 have been cancelled.

Claims 53-54 have been added.

Claims 33 and 51 have been amended as follows:

33. (Twice Amended) A photocurable resin composition comprising:
- (A) an epoxy compound having two or more alicyclic epoxy groups;
 - (B) a cationic photopolymerization initiator;
 - (C) a polyfunctional monomer having two or more ethylenically unsaturated groups in one molecule;
 - (D) a radical photopolymerization initiator;
 - (E) a polyol having three or more hydroxyl groups in one molecule; and
 - (F) **[elastomer] core shell** particles having an average particle diameter of 10-700 nm, wherein said core shell particles include
 - (i) a partially crosslinked core selected from the group consisting of polybutadiene, polyisoprene, styrene/butadiene copolymer, styrene/isoprene copolymer, ethylene/propylene copolymer, ethylene/ α -olefin copolymer, ethylene/ α -olefin/polyene copolymer, acrylic rubber, butadiene/(meth)acrylate copolymer, styrene/butadiene block copolymer, and styrene/isoprene block copolymer; and
 - (ii) a shell selected from the group consisting of methyl methacrylate polymer and methyl methacrylate/glycidyl methacrylate copolymer.

51. (Amended) The composition of claim 33, wherein said **[elastomer particles include at least one core-shell particle having a]** partially crosslinked core **[comprising] is selected from the group consisting of** polybutadiene, polyisoprene, styrene/butadiene copolymer, styrene/isoprene copolymer, butadiene/(meth)acrylate copolymer, styrene/butadiene block copolymer, **[or] and** styrene/isoprene block copolymer **[: and a shell comprising a methyl methacrylate polymer, methyl methacrylate/glycidyl copolymer, or methacrylate copolymer].**

End of Appendix